

Skygac's Column.

The Allies are all decided upon. Something must be done about the Bolsheviks. But what?

Crush 'em!
Boycott 'em!
Ignore 'em!
Trade with 'em!
Refuse to trade with 'em!
Trade with the people but don't trade with the soviet!

Make a decision and reverse it and make another reversible decision.

Send a "strong armed force" into the Caucasus because the Bolsheviks are menacing India.

The whole tragic farce remains one of the celebrated rat and mouse convention. A certain cat noted for its prowess as a mouser and rat-catcher created such a wholesale depletion of the rodent ranks that the rats and mice called a convention to discuss ways and means whereby the depredations caused by the cat might be avoided. After much discussion of many plans and schemes it was finally decided that the best thing to do under the circumstances would be to put a bell upon the cat so all would know of its approach in time to make their escape.

It was a lovely scheme but when volunteers were called for to place the bell upon the cat, lo and behold the rats and mice were scattered and none could be found.

Moral. Wanted.—Somebody to put a bell on the Bolsheviks.

If the Bolsheviks menace India, are they menacing the Indian PEOPLE or are they menacing the RULE of the Indian People by England? And if England feels that her divine right to rob and rule the people of India is endangered, why doesn't England protect her own interests? 'Twas always a hobby of England to get somebody else to pull chestnuts out of the fire for her.

Judicious stirring of the soil makes for a better crop. Judicial stirring of the soil of industrial unrest increases the red crop. Two reds now grow where before the Palmer raids one pale pink flourished.

Either there ARE classes in America or there are no classes. If there ARE classes here, all the word barrages the capitalists can throw in the name of hundred percents, will not change the facts. And if there ARE classes, the producing class will be the dominant class in the new society. We have had enough of rule by the parasites.

Every little C. C. Club in America sings the Star Spangled Banner and repeats at every meeting the words usually sing 'em to the tune of Market, Market, Who has the market?

The Capitalist press editorializes to the effect that there are no American Reds. Maybe so. Maybe so. But they will find the woods full of RED Americans.

A man can be a good American and still fail to worship at the shrine of the dollar mark.

Wages, the sugar coating which makes a capitalist job endurable are

paid to the majority of the workers in America.

Wages are determined by the average cost of production of labor power. This not only includes the day-by-day production of labor power but also the cost of rearing a family of children to REPLACE those worn out and thrown upon the scrap heap of industry. In the past it has been a clever scheme of the employing capitalists to import their laborers already grown, with the cost of their up-bringing paid upon a foreign soil. All that they had to pay those 'ignorant foreigners' was enough to reproduce their day-by-day labor power.

Now, when the foreigner is no longer ignorant but insists upon a wage sufficient to enable him to support a family in decency. —Ah! That is a different story. He is branded a red and his deportation "back to where he came from" is asked. Back to where he was BROUGHT from, would be a term more nearly correct.

Wanted, by the employing capitalists of America. — A bunch of laborers clever enough and shrewd enough to look out for their employers interest and too ignorant to look out for their own interests. Such a man or set of men may be assured of a steady job at the going wages in most any industrial center in the land.

Japan says she can not understand why the United States are withdrawing from Siberia. Japan probably could not understand why a man drops a hot brick.

Never try to hold a man up with a gun. It gets you a jail sentence. Hold 'em up with a smile — that gets you a bank-roll, a respectable name and a listing in the "Who is Who" column.

During the late unpleasantness we heard much lauding of the shipyard workers as the men behind the guns. Now judging by the way the Legion men are jumping on Dempsey, nobody helped win the war unless he was in O. D.

Too many Nations are made great at the expense of the common people.

I. W. W. testifies that the Industrial Donations report is the Wobblly Bi-collored news headline. That I. W. W. is a committee picked by a master class, aress and a democratic common school can not deport its members. It sure does let too much truth to be safely allowed in circulation.

Among other things the report states that the average wage received by the working class was short more than \$200.00 of enough to raise a family in decency. And that was at the pre-war prices!

Anybody heard anything about the 14 points and pitiless publicity lately?

How quickly Ancient History is made!

Russian Trade Regulations.

Reports are current that \$100,000,000 worth of business has been placed by Russian representatives with American firms and that the purchasers, are willing to deposit cash in American banks to cover their orders for the manufactured articles which the Russian people are said to be so sorely in need of. But the policy pursued by our State Department of refusing trade licenses has hampered our manufacturers from exporting their products. If the reports are true that the allied countries and even Germany have resumed trade relations with Russia, then our Government should adopt a similar policy.

American manufacturers are willing to supply the Russian people with the products they need, at what promises to be attractive prices. American importers, too, are desirous of importing those materials which Russia has in abundance and which we need. Prior to the war, Russia produced 79 per cent of the world's supply of flax, 51 per cent of the hemp and 97 per cent of the platinum. She is rich in ferro manganese, in antimony and other metals. We need these products.

If other nations have taken active steps to capture the Russian markets then our manufacturers should be protected, for when we finally determine to take an active hand in Russian trade we may find little opportunity left for us to do so.

WHO WANTS TO TRADE WITH RUSSIA?

Ludwig C. A. K. Martins, Ambassador of Soviet Russia, has furnished the Committee on Foreign Relations with a list of American corporations whom he testifies have made contracts

with him for supplying millions of dollars worth of supplies to his government. This list contains the names of some of the country's greatest exporters. Among them are the following who are ready to open trade relations with the Soviet government as soon as the state department permits ships to clear from American ports.

This list included: Morris & Co., Chicago, meat packers, 50,000,000 pounds of food products at prevailing market prices when shipments are made possible.

Elia Berlow, 110 Duane Street, New York, a \$3,000,000 contract for boots and shoes.

Fischman & Co., 395 Broadway, New York, \$3,000,000 worth of underwear.

Weinberg & Posner, 120 Broadway, New York, \$3,000,000 worth of machinery and tools.

Lehigh Machine Company of Pennsylvania, \$4,500,000 worth of printing presses.

National Storage Company, New York, miscellaneous merchandise to be delivered in Petrograd, valued at \$10,000,000. This contract, Mr. Martins said, was made on Sept. 16, 1919.

He stated, that in addition to the contracts listed, "the negotiations of the commercial department of the Soviet Government Bureau have covered a schedule of articles required in Russia to a total of approximately \$300,000,000, consisting of railway material and equipment, farm implements and machinery, tractors, trucks, and automobiles, foodstuffs and canned milk, mining, printing, and road-making machinery, hardware and tools, woollens, textiles knit goods, shoes, leather, chemicals, medical and surgical supplies."

HERE'S THE "LATENT BALD-HEADED MAN OF EUROPE"

LENIN! Is there a name which can be pronounced before any representative group of citizens anywhere in the world that will immediately agitate it as much as this name of five letters? Is there one which will stir up as divergent a series of expressions from any audience as this? We think not.

No name in history ever had pronounced upon it the anathemas which have poured upon this name. None ever wielded as great an influence upon the affairs of mankind as this simple Russian word. It has been cursed in America alone, numberless millions of times by the hired dimes who scribble the made-to-order editorials of the prostitute press.

But while capitalist hirelings may rend their hair in agony for a new adjective to apply to Lenin and the principles upon which his Social Democracy is based, the world's workers are learning to pronounce it with pride and hope and longing. Russia stands for all that is hopeful to Labor and Labor's millions are turning their faces toward the land of Lenin as the sower turneth his face to the morning sun.

There are many names which but a year ago were resounding thru the world as great and good. To-day, they are but as sounding brass. Abhorred by the masses whom they betrayed, they grow fainter and fainter as they pass down the corridors of time. The world is learning to pronounce new

names and leading them all is—LENIN

This picture of Lenin, standing in the courtyard of the Kremlin at Moscow, was recently brought to America by Isaac McRide.

"Sedition"

By Edmund Vance Cooke

You cannot salt the eagle's tail,
Nor limit thought's dominion.
You cannot put ideas in jail;
You can't deport opinion.

If any cause be dross and lies,
Then drag it to the light;
Out in the sunshine evil dies,
But fattens on the Night.

You cannot make a truth untrue
By dint of legal fiction.
You cannot prison human view
You can't convict conviction cheap.

For tho by thumbscrew and by rack,
By exile and by prison,
Truth has been crushed and palled in black,
Yet truth has always risen.

You cannot quell a vicious thought
Except that thought be free:
Gag it, and you will find it taught
On every land and sea.

Truth asks no favor for her blade
Upon the field with Error,
Nor are her converts ever made
By threat of force and terror.

You cannot salt the eagle's tail
Nor limit thought's dominion.
You cannot put ideas in jail,
You can't deport opinion.

POLAND IS KEY TO PEACE WITH REDS

Harmony of Europe Depends on Warsaw's Negotiations With Bolsheviks.

LONDON. — The peace discussions between the Poles and the Bolsheviks are being watched in diplomatic quarters here with the deepest interest, since the general feeling is that the peace of Europe depends upon whether the treaty is signed.

In other words, Poland is regarded as the keystone of the present situation and it is felt that as long as hostilities continue between Poland and soviet Russia tranquility cannot be re-established in the rest of Europe.

If Poland should accept the Bolshevik proposals, diplomatic circles believe that she would be placed in the uncomfortable position of being asked by the reds to agree to a plebiscite for the Bolshevik territory she now occupies. While Poland has a large number of nationals in this territory, she admittedly is in the minority and the Bolsheviks undoubtedly would make strong propaganda among the population.

Since the recent visit of Stanislas Patek, Polish minister of foreign affairs to Paris and England for conferences, various reports have been published regarding the allied attitude toward the situation with regard to Poland and the Bolsheviks. Highly placed diplomats, say these reports

have, in general, been erroneous and that the word the Polish foreign minister really carried back to Warsaw was substantially this:

The allies do not propose to use Poland as an arrowhead to pierce Bolshevik Russia. The allies cannot place themselves in the position of advising Poland to attack the Bolsheviks nor can the allies promise assistance to Poland in such event.

Should the Bolsheviks make an unprovoked assault that would alter the situation. Poland's attention has been called to the fact that the allies are establishing certain trade relations with Russia. Whether Poland shall make peace with the Bolsheviks is a matter for her alone to decide.

"AMERICAN LIBERTY"

Lecture By
JACOB MARGOLIS
Attorney for U. S. Steel Workers. A man with a message for every liberty loving American.

Under Auspices —
THE WORKERS DEFENSE LEAGUE
G. A. R. HALL, 50 SOUTH HOWARD STREET
Sunday February 22nd 2:00 P. M.
ADMISSION 25 CENTS
Tickets on Sale at the Tailor Shop, 108 East Market Street.

Speaking of Revolutions

By SCOTT NEARING.

Staff Writer.
The Federated Press.

Speaking of revolutions, there was one in Hawaii, back in 1893, the incidents of which are thus described by a man who was then in the United States senate — R. F. Pettigrew.

"During Harrison's administration, Mr. Stevens was minister to Hawaii, and he asked that some naval vessels be sent there to protect American lives and property. In reality he had entered into an understanding with a small group of missionaries and their descendants to bring about a revolution, overthrow the existing government and annex the islands to the United States so that their sugar and their products could come into our market free from duty. A naval vessel was ordered to Hawaii, and, after it arrived, 13 conspirators met in a room and decided to overthrow the government."

"At night, 150 of the marines from the American battleship were landed and marched to a point 75 yards from and in front of the government building in Honolulu. The 13 men, having arrived at the front of the government building, read their proclamation and were immediately recognized as the government of the Hawaiian islands by the American minister."

Who were these "conspirators", who were so promptly accepted by the United States authorities as the new government?

That question is answered by one of the most charmingly frank documents that ever was penned by an apologist for things as they are. Hawaii was not annexed to the United States until 1898. In the meantime, every form of pressure was brought to bear upon the senate to force through the treaty of annexation. Among the documents written with this end in view was An Address by the Hawaiian Branches of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Sons of Veterans, and the Grand Army of the Republic to their Compatriots in American Concerning the Annexation of Hawaii.

The "Address", published in 1897, gives this version of the revolution: "The revolution (of 1893) was not the work of filibusters and adventurers, but of the most conservative and law-abiding citizens, of the principal taxpayers, of the leaders of industrial enterprises." The address notes further, that, "of the capital invested in the islands, two-thirds is owned by Americans."

There may have been a Bolshevik in Hawaii in 1893, but they get not the slightest credit for overthrowing the government. On the contrary, the work was done by conservative, law-abiding citizens, by the leading taxpayers, and the leaders of industrial enterprise. True to form, the ruling class of Hawaii disposed of the existing form of government when it had no further use for it.

Shakespeare's melancholy Jacques found his lessons in stones. State legislatures and national officials are evidently taking theirs from our island possessions.

WHAT OF IT?
Scott Nearing

At last, after months of prattle, comes a word of sense from Washington on the H. C. of L. "I see no prospect of any considerable fall in prices for several years to come," says Roy A. Meeker, commissioner of labor statistics. Then he explains why — because "it will be impossible for the governments of the world to pay off their debts very rapidly."

It will!
But that is not the real reason why prices will stay high. Prices will stay high first because the efficiency of the capitalist system has fallen so low that goods cannot be turned out fast enough to meet the demand. Second, because the payments in the form of rent, interest, dividends and profits are so great a fixed charge on industry that even though efficiency were maintained, the cost of production plus this cost of parasitism would keep prices high.

High prices today mean that the worker cannot buy back, with his wages, what he has produced with his energies. This is the very essence of the present ludicrous system of economic life.

The Black Sheep.

Chapt. XVII.

The Other Side (continued)

A little chat with the principal of her school that morning on the right and wrong of Jack's incarceration proved to her that that individual was not in favor of the firing system. He told her that he had heard of Jack's prowess before the judge and gave it as his opinion that the boy was right. But when Olive asked him to do something for the boy he immediately changed his mind. He told her that Smallhead's wife's cousin's niece's brother-in-law was a member of the school board and it was therefore not policy for him to say or do anything which might reflect on the integrity of Mr. Smallhead. He averred that he could not mingle in politics and keep his prestige as a teacher. He advised her not to speak of these matters as they were entirely out of the sphere of young ladies and were liable to be misinterpreted.

This homily however did not do her any good from the principal's view point. It only irritated her and made her more determined than ever to go ahead. Ahead to what? She could not unlock the jail door so she decided to do the next best thing. To awaken the interest of the influential people of town to a realization of what was going on she never fully realized her position in this matter. There were three men in jail. Hundreds had been fined, and yet, only one stirred her to action.

She told the principal that it was just because she was a woman that she had to let the putrescent system of injustice thrive. She insisted that she knew the boy was innocent of any crime and yet he had to lie in a filthy jail simply because good people were cowards and bad people were greedy.

She went to her classes leaving the principal amazed not only at her temper but at her reasoning as well. "What is she, a Carrie Nation or an Amelia Pankhurst?" he asked of Miss Kramer who happened to be in his office at the time. "That young fellow must have a remarkable personality. It seems to me they ought not to have put him in jail."

Miss Kramer whose individuality had been dwarfed by thirty years continuous association with children, simply said that she was surprised at Miss Anderson. She assured the principal that she would do her best to remove that "faintest notion" from the child's mind. "A young lady of her standing, to come to the defence of nameless hoboes—the very idea!"

That evening on her way home from school Olive stopped at the livery stable to see Judge Duffy. She found that worthy sitting in his office reading the latest copy of the "Police Gazette". It was his official magazine and the only literature that interested him.

When Olive entered, he greeted her jovially, saying: "Hello there Olive, how's your Pop?"

"Quite well, thank you," Olive answered, then coming directly to the point she said: "I visited the jail Sunday with the Endeavor people."

"Yes, so I hear. How do you like our boarders? We've got a bright kid in there Olive, but he needs coolin'."

"Why is he in jail?" she asked almost defiantly.

"Oh, he was drunk and fighting," said the judge as he rolled a cigar from one corner of his mouth to another. "Gorry to pinch him; he's so young, but we must have order, you know. If we didn't look up characters like that, why then you and Tillie and your Mum wouldn't be safe on the street."

"But, Mr. Duffy, I do not believe that boy was that kind of a character. If he fought at all, it was in self-defense; then there is another thing I wish to ask, why did you fine all these men when they were not all drunk? Is it because the town needs the money?"

"No, no child, that would not be right. The town don't need the money any worse than I do. We fine these men so that they will not have the money to loiter around the pool halls and disturb the peace and dignity of our municipality." Then after laughing at his own witticism, he added, "Now run along little girl, and don't ask so many questions. Run up to the house and see Tillie's new coat. I'm busy just now." He arose tickled Olive under the chin and then walked out into the stable.

Olive did not go to see Tillie as the Judge had suggested. She made her way to the office of the "Amateur Record" where she interviewed Mr. Ralph Cranston, the editor.

"Cranston's sense of humor was aroused by her earnestness and lack of worldly wisdom. He decided to have a little fun at the child's expense. He would just let her take a glimpse of life as it really was. He admitted freely that what Judge Duffy had done and was doing was morally wrong and to be condemned if it

were done at a distance. "We would go to war if such things were done in China," said he. "But at home, when our morals conflict with business expedience then we chuck morals overboard and do what is expedient." Then he continued as he whirled around in his swivel chair and rested his elbow on his editorial desk. "Do you know Miss Anderson that this is legally a dry state, and that it is a crime under the laws of this commonwealth to own and operate a place in which intoxicating liquors are sold. Yet we have them here, in the very shadow of your churches I ask you why?"

Olive was silent. She wanted to hear what he had to say. She wondered if he too would find a way to justify this self evident crime.

"I will tell you," the editor went on, "this is a wheat country. A few men come in the spring to sow and to plough, but thousands come to the harvest. They come not because the crops need cutting, in fact they do not care if they are ever cut. They come because we are forced to pay wages if we want to see our harvest gathered. Wages are paid with good hard money, which these men take out of the state when they leave. So much for one side of the question. These men make their money by work as I make my money by printing and your Dad makes his money from rent. The difference is, that we have land and business; that we are located here. But these men who come here to work have no land and no business, except to work. For their work we pay them money which they would take out of the country unless we find some way to stop them."

"But why stop them?" Olive asked wide eyed. "Isn't the money theirs? Haven't they worked for it?"

"Tut, tut child don't get excited. We stop them because the money will do us more good than it will them. We business people do not produce; we exist on margins. Never forget that. There are too many of us to grow rich from the farmers alone; we must get a part of what goes out in the shape of wages. The town is in the firing business just exactly as your father is in real estate—Mr. Marvin is in groceries, Duffy in homes. They are all after the margin. The town is only a collective citizen. What it does, is for the benefit of its people. If we do not get our margin as officers and business men we become either farmers or bums. Your Dad buys a cheap rifle and rents it at a high rental. The margin so achieved buys your clothes. He persuades an ignorant man that his good land is poor and that he can do better on an alkali flat. He gets the good farm cheap and sells it dear—the margin sends you to school. The fact that the renter and his wife sweat blood to pay the rent and that the ignorant man starves on alkali flat does not bother you. It is business and business must have victims. What is true of your Dad and you is true of all of us; we live upon that which we have not earned."

"We do not like the 'blind pig', but the men who come to harvest our crops are homeless wanderers; they must have a place where they can meet socially, where they can mingle and talk the things they know and understand. They want a place where they can forget their trouble and remember their misery no more as the Bible says. In other words it brings them to town where they buy clothes, hats, shoes, tobacco, and snuff; where they eat at the restaurant, buy papers at the book stand, all of which means money in our pockets. That is why we tolerate the 'blind pig'. If Anamoose has no 'pig' and Harvey has two then the merchants there will make just twice as much, as the merchants here from the hobo trade."

"But why fine them when they are caught in the trap you yourself have set for them?" the girl asked.

"Again that is to our advantage. Taxes are high and the town needs improvements. To hold down the tax bill and at the same time improve the town, that is the test of official efficiency. You know, Miss Anderson, that it takes money to run a town — it has to come from somewhere—the taxpayers do not always figure the cost of these things — they only know that they want them, but they do not want the bills that follow. When bills go too high they change officers; the officers need their job; they, too, must eat so they try to hold down the bills. People are naturally more interested in cheapness than in the method by which cheapness is brought about, so the officers take a chance to get easy money whenever it presents itself."

"It is not a christian way of doing," the girl protested.

"Oh, well, Christians don't like high taxes any better than Jews. In the world of business we recognize neither saints nor sinners. The very land we live on was stolen from the Indians and not even you would turn your father's farm to the Red

(Continued on page 4.)